NFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT COUNTRY China 10 December 1955 SUBJECT DATE DISTR. Food Prices, Rationing, and 25X1 Bus Fare in Kwangtung NO. OF PAGES REQUIREMENT NO. RD DATE OF INFO REFERENCES 25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED This is UNEVALUATED Information DATE ACQUIRED 25X1 SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

prices of foods which were obtainable only in the cooperatives in Hengkang (2897/1511), Hsingning Hsien (N 24-04, E 115-49) were as follows:

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Commodity	' <u>Unit</u>	Price in New Yuan
Pork	catty	.68
Rice	picul	14.00
Flour Cake	catty	•50
Potatoes	do	•50
Potato Flour	đo	• 30
Chicken	do	.60
Oil, black	đo	.60
Sugar	do	•34
Vegetables	do	.10

Sugar was available only during festival time. Oil was limited to four ounces per person a month. Pregnant women were allowed to purchase 50 catties of rice wine; no one else could buy wine.

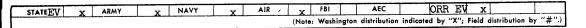
2. commodity prices in Meihsien (N 24-18, E 116-08) were as follows:

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Commodity	Ration per Month	<u>Unit</u>	Price in New Yuan
Rice Vegetable oil Sugar Kerosene Pork Chicken	20 catties ¹ ½ catty 10 ounces 2 ounces per purchase 1 catty not stated	picul catty do do do do	13.00 .75 .35 .50 .6070
Salt	not stated	do	.15

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3. Once daily, a bus left Meihsien, traveled to Hoyuan (N 23-42, E 114-48) and arrived in Canton at 1400 hours the following afternoon. Bus fare from Meihsien to Canton was 16.40 new yuan.

4. commodity prices in Kungifou (N 22-26, E 112-46) were as follows:

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Commodity	<u>Unit</u>	Price in New Yuan
Rice	picul	13.60
Pork	catty	.80
Chicken	đo	.7090
Kerosene	do	•55
Fish	đo	.4050
Salted Fish	đo	.80
Salt	đo	.15
Vegetables	đo	.05
Peanut oil	đọ	•75

5. Residents of Kungifou were rationed to 15 catties of rice per month, and children received one-half of this rice ration. Overseas Chinese returning from Hong Kong were allowed to purchase 25 catties of rice each month, and Chinese returning from the United States received 30 catties each month. People were adding more vegetables, melons, roots, and other commoditites to their diet, because the rice ration was inadequate for subsistence. Two bowls of cooked rice could be purchased at one time at a restaurant. Each person was permitted to purchase each month an unlimited amount of pork, four ounces of sugar, and six ounces of peanut oil. Kerosene was limited to two ounces per purchase. Sweet potatoes, biscuits, and flour were not available on the local market.

1.	Comment. The rice ration was not the same in the various ch'u in
	Meihsien. The ration for Chinese Communist officials, cadre, and people
	in the city was 20 catties per month. In the country rice was rationed
	according to the quantity stored. For example, in Sungk'ou (N 24-27, E 116-26)
٤	the ration was 15 cattles per month, and in Yuk'eng (N 23-57, E 116-10) the
	ration was 10 cattles per month.

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